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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Addendum

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO.[1] The report is being submitted pursuant to the procedure described in paragraph IV.61 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.[2]

2. As indicated in paragraphs 11B.3 and 11B.4 and table 11B.1 of the budget report, the contribution of the United Nations to the proposed programme budget of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (ITC) for the biennium 2000-2001 amounts to $19,980,000 (Sw F 29,170,800), representing an increase of 1.3 per cent over the 1998-1999 appropriation. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 11B.3 that the increase is due mainly to the proposal to establish two posts at the P-4 level.

3. The Advisory Committee also notes from the report that agreement has been reached between the United Nations and the World Trade Organization (WTO) on the proposed programme budget for ITC, including the request for the two new P-4 posts. The Committee recommended acceptance of the proposal. However, as indicated in paragraph 11B.5, no agreement has been arrived at between the United Nations and WTO to reclassify two P-3 posts to the P-4 level and one P-2 post to the P-3 level. The Committee notes from the report that no submission from the Secretary-General has been made to reclassify the posts. The Committee also notes from paragraph 11B.6 that WTO has not yet finalized its position on the reclassification of the three posts.

4. The Advisory Committee expresses its concern at the disagreement between the United Nations and WTO on the reclassification of the three posts. In the opinion of the Committee, there is a need for a consistent approach in budgetary matters and in determining actual post requirements, due regard being paid to the specific requirements of each organization. In this connection, the Committee requests both organizations to review the matter, bearing in mind the expressed needs of ITC. The results of the review should be submitted to the General Assembly in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for 2000-2001.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6A* (A/54/6/Rev.1/Add.1).

[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (A/54/7).

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